

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 07027 072325Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/101 W

----- 121913

R 072305Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9311

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ UNN

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA UNN

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO UNN

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN UNN

AMCONSUL MERIDA UNN

AMCONSUL MONTERREY UNN

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO UNN

AMCONSUL TIJUANA UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 7027

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN IMPORT REGIME

REF: A) MEXICO 6950 B) GENEVA 6177 C) GENEVA 6168

1. THOUGH THE DECISION WILL PROBABLY TURN ON FACTORS LARGELY OUTSIDE OF USG CONTROL, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT IN GENEVA AND MEXICO CITY WE MIGHT DISCREETLY HELP GOM SHIFT FROM ITS RESTRICTIVE IMPORT REGIME OF QUOTAS TO PROTECTIVE SYSTEM LARGELY OF IMPORT DUTIES. SUCH A CHANGE IN THE IMPORT REGIME WAS DISCUSSED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 07027 072325Z

JULY 31 BY HECTOR HERNANDEZ (DIRECTOR GENERAL ECONOMIC STUDIES,

TREASURY) AND ABEL GARRIDO (GOM REP TO MTN) IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR DENT (STR), MR. LANDE AND EMBASSY OFFICERS (REF A). EMBASSY HAS ALSO HEARD PREVIOUS HINTS OF GOM INTENTIONS IN THIS DIRECTION.

2. ACCORDING TO HERNANDEZ AND GARRIDO, NEW TARIFF SYSTEM COMMUNICATED GATT (REF B) WAS SET UP AS PRELIMINARY STEP TO DISMANTLE QUOTA SYSTEM OVER NEXT 5 YEARS. GOM SPOKESMEN CAUTIONED THAT THERE IS WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION TO SUCH A MOVE ON PART OF VESTED INTERESTES IN PRIVATE SECTOR, AND THAT CHANGEOVER MUST BE DONE CAREFULLY AND WITHOUT TIPPING GOM HAND BY VOICING SUCH INTENTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

3. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ABOUT MEXICAN SELLING PRICE AS BASIS FOR CUSTOMS VALUATIONS, HERNANDEZ SAID THIS SUPPLIED NEEDED PROTECTION IN ABSENCE OF ANTI-DUMPING LEGISLATION. HE STATED HOWEVER THAT GOM INTENDED PROVIDE FOR CHANGE IN SYSEM IF IT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED THAT MEXICAN VALUATION IS HIGHER THAN GENUINE INVOICE PRICE. THERE ARE STUDIES ON CONVERTING TO BRUSSELS VALUATION SYSTEM, BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH TO BIT OFF AT PRESENT TIME.

4. COMMENT: WE NOTE CONTRAST BETWEEN APPARENT FORTHCOMING INTENTIONS AS EXPRESSEED BY HERNANDEZ AND GARRIDO IN JULY 31 CONVERSATIONS, AND "HANDS-OFF" ATTITUDE IN MEXICAN REPLY (REF C) TO US NOTIFICATION ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS. (EMBASSY ASSUMES L/4210 MENTIONED PARA R REFTEL C ALSO INCLUDES TEXT OF US NOTIFICATION WHICH WE WOULD FIND INTERESTING.)

6. IT MAY BE THAT IN THIS STIFF INITIAL REACTION, GOM PROTECTING ITSELF FROM DOMESTIC CRITICISM AND WOULD PRIVATELY WELCOME CONTINUED PRESSURE IN GATT. OR IT MAY BE THAT GOM PLAYING NOT UNACCUSTOMED GAME OF TELLING US PRIVATELY WHAT WE WANT TO HEAR WHILE TALKING IN OPPOSITE FASION PUBLICLY. ON OTHER HAND, THERE ARE NUMEROUS INDICATIONS THAT GOM BECOMING AWARE THAT OVER-PROTECTION OF PRIVATE VESTED INTERESTS NOT AT ALL IN BEST INTERESTS OF MEXICO. WE BELIEVE IT WELL WORTH A TRY TO DISMANTLE MEXICO'S RESTRICTIVE QUOTA SYSTEM. BRANDIN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MEXICO 07027 072325Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFF LAW, IMPORT CONTROLS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO07027
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750273-0872
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750874/aaaacmzm.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MEXICO 6950, 75 GENEVA 6177, 75 GENEVA 6168
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEXICAN IMPORT REGIME
TAGS: ETRD, MX, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006